RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): In this particular case, the Deputy Director of Public Health has followed this rule. When a man with higher qualifications is available, preference should be given to him.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): So, am I to take it that no man with L. M. & S. qualification is appointed in the Public Health Department?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Only one L. M. & S. has so far been appointed.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Am I to understand that when that man was appointed, there was no other M.B. & B.S. qualified man?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

Public Cremation ground in Shertala.

67. ***MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON** (*Shertala I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a public cremation ground in Shertala;

(*b*) if so, the location and the extent of the same; and

(*c*) whether they are aware that the dead bodies from the hospital and of the destitute are allowed to be exposed in Anathara Veli just to the east of the Alleppey-Aroor road?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) in view of the answer to part (*a*), this question does not arise.

(*c*) No. Dead bodies are either buried or burnt at the place.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Am I to understand from the member that there is no public cremation ground reserved for the said purpose. I heard the official member to say that—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You can only put a question.

MR EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): What is the answer to part (*a*) please?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The answer was 'no.'

MR. POTTAYIL S KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know if dead bodies are buried or burnt in private places at the expense of private land owners?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): There are two private cremation grounds, one used by the Gaudasaraswats and the other by Elavaniyans.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know in what locality they are?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not know. I know that there is no public cremation ground at Shertala.

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